



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
GAMBLING COMMISSION**

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**Commission Position Statement
Substitute House Bill 2175
March 18, 2005**

At its regularly scheduled meeting on March 10, 2005, the Commission voted unanimously to support Substitute House Bill 2175, which prohibits charitable/nonprofit organizations from operating commercial gambling activities. The Commission believes that the bill clarifies the separation between charitable and commercial gambling, and voted unanimously in support of this proposal.

The Commission had a rule which prevented charitable organizations involved in licensed, charitable gambling from managing, operating, or owning a business with commercial gambling activities. However, Thurston County Superior Court recently struck down this rule for exceeding the scope of the existing statute. SHB 2175 answers the question that the invalidated rule was intended to address regarding the ability of charitable/nonprofit organizations to conduct both charitable and commercial gambling.